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Mountain Ash
Urban District Council

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health

1955

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

# ANNUAL REPORT

## of the

## Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
THIRTY FIRST DECEMBER
ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED & FIFTY - FIVE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIBRARY

BY

J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LOND.)

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

DAY OF MEETING:

Second TUESAY in each month.

*Chairman:*

Councillor W. Morgan

*Members:*

Councillor Miss M. George
Councillor A. H. Maggs
Councillor A. S. J. Hillier
Councillor Mrs. M. Bath
Councillor Mrs. L. Watts
Councillor W. M. Rees
Councillor A. Jones
Councillor E. J. Billing
Councillor R. G. Owen
Councillor W. I. Jones
Councillor J. Lewis
Councillor S. Wright
Councillor E. A. Bennett
Councillor R. V. Nelms
Councillor Mrs. M. Lewis
Councillor A. Morgan
Councillor E. Jenkins

## Staff of Public Health Department

*Medical Officer of Health (part time)* ..... J. Ll. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., (Lond.)

*Senior Sanitary Inspector* ..... W. J. Watters, C.R.S.I., Cert. Meat & Other Foods, R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*Sanitary Inspectors* ..... G. M. James, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Other Foods, R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

W. C. Griffiths, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.I.

*Clerk* ..... H. J. Thomas

# Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
OXFORD STREET,
MOUNTAIN ASH,
*September*, 1956.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions of the District, and the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1955.

I desire to record my thanks to the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. J. Watters, and to the staff of the Health Department for their hard work and assistance to me during the year.

Yours sincerely,

J. LL. WILLIAMS,
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Area of the District ... ... ... | 10,504 acres |
| Population ... ... ... ... ... | 30,800 |
| Number of inhabited houses (end of 1955) according to the Rate Books ... ... | 8,418 |
| Rateable Value ... ... ... ... ... | £112,894 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ... | £412 |

## EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

| | | Total. | Male. | Female. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Live Births : | Legitimate ... | 461 | 237 | 224 |
| | Illegitimate ... | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Birth-rate per 1,000 of the resident population ... | | 15.10 | | |
| Still-births : | Legitimate ... | 13 | 8 | 5 |
| ,, | Illegitimate ... | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births registered ... ... | | 29.2 | | |
| Deaths ... ... ... | | 443 | 250 | 193 |
| Death-rate per 1,000 estimated average population ... | | 14.38 | | |

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Heading 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :—

| | Deaths. | Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births. |
|---|---|---|
| No. 30—Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion ... ... | 2 | 4.1 |

## BIRTHS.

The number of births registered in the district during the year was 465. The number of males was 240 and females 225. This gives a birth-rate of 15.10 per 1,000 inhabitants on a population of 30,800 (Registrar General).

The birth-rate for the year is .10 higher than the rate for England and Wales, and is exactly the same as the rate for the Administrative County. The birth-rate is .14 lower than last year.

The number of illegitimate children registered was 4. This is equivalent to an illegitimate rate of 8.6 per 1,000 births registered.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age registered in the district during the year was 17, 10 males and 7 females. This gives an infantile death-rate of 36.56 per 1,000 live births registered, and .55 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the area.

The infantile death-rate of 36.56 per 1,000 births registered is 15.36 higher than for 1954.

The neo-natal mortality rate (the number of deaths during the first month of life) was 27.9 per 1,000 births, and is 76.4 per cent. of the infantile death-rate.

I append a table showing the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, and the infantile death-rate per 1,000 births for the past ten years. Also, a table comparing the Infant Mortality and Neo-Natal Mortality for the Mountain Ash Urban Area with other areas for 1955 :—

| *Year* | **1946** | **1947** | **1948** | **1949** | **1950** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Deaths ... ... | 32 | 48 | 30 | 25 | 25 |
| Death-rate per 1,000 births ... | 50.0 | 73.0 | 46.0 | 46.0 | 48.6 |

| *Year* | **1951** | **1952** | **1953** | **1954** | **1955** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Deaths ... ... | 23 | 29 | 13 | 10 | 17 |
| Death-rate per 1,000 births ... | 41.7 | 50.8 | 24.7 | 21.2 | 36.56 |

## DEATHS Registered during the Calendar Year 1955, classified by age and causes.

*Name of District*—MOUNTAIN ASH.

ANALYSIS OF NETT DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE.

| Cause of Death | Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Under One year* | *1 and under 2 years* | *2 and under 3 years* | *3 and under 4 years* | *4 and under 5 years* | *5 and under 10 years* | *10 and under 15 years* | *15 and under 20 years* | *20 and under 35 years* | *35 and under 45 years* | *45 and under 65 years* | *65 and upwards* | *Total* |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| Tuberculosis—Respiratory .. .. | — | — | | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | 6 | — | 10 |
| Tuberculosis—Other Forms .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Syphilitic Disease .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Diphtheria .. .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Meningococcal Infections .. .. | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles .. .. .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other infective and parasitic diseases | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Malignant Neoplasm : Stomach .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| ,, ,, Lung, Bronchus | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| ,, ,, Breast .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 2 |
| ,, ,, Uterus .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | 10 | 17 | 30 |
| Leukaemia aleukaemia .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 2 |
| Diabetes .. .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | 45 | 55 |
| Coronary disease, angina .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 23 | 27 | 52 |
| Hypertension with heart disease .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Other Heart disease .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 28 | 43 |
| Other circulatory disease .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 11 | 16 |
| Influenza .. .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 5 |
| Pneumonia .. .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 3 | 6 | 10 |
| Bronchitis .. .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 13 | 25 | 38 |
| Other diseases of respiratory system .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 13 | 11 | 26 |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 5 |
| Nephritis and nephrosis .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | 1 | 4 |
| Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 2 |
| Congenital malformations .. .. | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 10 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | 7 | 48 | 70 |
| Motor vehicle accidents .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| All other accidents .. .. .. | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 15 |
| Suicide .. .. .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | — | 4 |
| Homicide and operations of war .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| GRAND TOTAL .. .... | 17 | 3 | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | 4 | 15 | 13 | 126 | 260 | 443 |

**INFANT MORTALITY.—Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.**

| *Cause of Death* | *Under 1 week* | 1-2 *weeks* | 2-3 *weeks* | 3-4 *weeks* | *Total under 4 weeks* | 1-3 *4 weeks and under 3 months* | 3-6 *3 months and under 6 months* | 6-9 *6 months and under 9 months* | 9-12 *9 months and under 12 months* | *Total Deaths under 1 year* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| Measles ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever .. ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Abdominal Tuberculosis ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other T.B. Diseases ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Convulsions ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Influenza ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Bronchitis ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pneumonia all forms ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Diarrhoea ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Enteritis ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Gastritis ... ... ... | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 3 |
| Syphilis ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Rickets ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Suffocation, Accidental ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Injury at Birth ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Atelectasis ... ... | 3 | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| Congenital Malformations ... | 4 | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | 4 |
| Premature Birth ... ... | 5 | — | — | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other Causes ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| GRAND TOTAL ... | 12 | 1 | — | — | 13 | 1 | 2 | — | 1 | 17 |

| Source. | Infant Mortality. Deaths under 1 year. | Infant Mortality. Rate per 1,000 live births. | Neo-Natal Mortality. Deaths under four weeks. | Neo-Natal Mortality. Rate per 1,000 live births. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| England & Wales ... | — | 24.9 | — | 17.3 |
| Glamorgan County | 374 | 33.58 | 253 | 22.72 |
| Urban District ... | 286 | 34.73 | 189 | 22.95 |
| Rural District ... | 88 | 30.33 | 64 | 22.06 |
| **Mountain Ash ...** | **17** | **36.56** | **13** | **27.96** |
| Other Glamorgan Districts :— | | | | |
| Aberdare ... ... | 18 | 32.67 | 14 | 25.41 |
| Barry ... ... | 19 | 26.84 | 13 | 18.36 |
| Bridgend ... ... | 4 | 16.00 | 4 | 16.00 |
| Caerphilly ... ... | 24 | 35.93 | 16 | 23.95 |
| Neath Rural ... | 23 | 40.64 | 13 | 32.75 |
| Glyncorrwg ... ... | 8 | 43.96 | 3 | 16.48 |
| Pontypridd ... ... | 20 | 38.24 | 15 | 28.68 |
| Rhondda ... ... | 48 | 32.28 | 27 | 18.16 |

## STILL BIRTHS.

The number of Still-births registered during the year was 14, and is 2.9 per cent. of the total births registered. The Still-birth Rate per 1,000 Registered Live and Still-births was 29.2.

## DEATHS (All Ages).

The number of deaths in the district during the year was 443. This gives a Death-rate of 14.38 per 1,000 upon an estimated population of 30,800.

The causes of death in the various age groups were as set out in the following tables :—

# Notifiable Diseases

The following tables shew the age and ward distribution of the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year under review :—

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.**

| *Diseases.* | | *Total Cases Notified* | *Number of Cases recorded on Form* 118e (*corrected figures*) | *Cases admitted to Hospital* | *Total Deaths* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever ... ... | | 52 | 52 | 2 | — |
| Pneumonia ... ... | | 36 | 36 | 13 | 10 |
| Measles ... ... ... | | 825 | 825 | — | — |
| Erysiplas ... ... ... | | 8 | 8 | — | — |
| Meningococcal Infection .. | | 8 | 5 | 8 | 1 |
| Food Poisoning ... | | 3 | 3 | 1 | — |
| Whooping Cough ... ... | | 31 | 31 | — | — |
| Para-typhoid ... ... | | 3 | 2 | 2 | — |
| Enteric Fever .... ... | | 1 | — | — | — |
| Tuberculosis :— | | | | | |
| (*a*) Pulmonary | Males ... | 23 | 23 | 14 | 7 |
| | Females | 12 | 12 | 5 | 3 |
| | Total ... | 35 | 35 | 19 | 10 |
| (*b*) Non-Pulmonary | Males ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| | Females | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| | Total ... | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 |

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1955. Analysis of the Total Cases in Age Groups.

| *Disease* | *Under 1 year* | *1 to 2 years* | *2 to 3 years* | *3 to 4 years* | *4 to 5 years* | *5 to 10 years* | *10 to15 years* | *15 to20 years* | *20 to35 years* | *35 to45 years* | *45 to65 years* | *65 yrs. & over* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever ... ... | — | 3 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 24 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 52 |
| Pneumonia ... ... | 3 | — | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | — | — | 6 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 36 |
| Measles ... ... ... | 31 | 72 | 113 | 144 | 200 | 257 | 6 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 825 |
| Erysipelas ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 6 | — | 8 |
| Meningococcal Inf. .. | 3 | 2 | — | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 8 |
| Food Poisoning ... | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 3 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 12 | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 31 |
| Para-typhoid ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 3 |
| Enteric Fever ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| TOTAL ... ... | 41 | 79 | 121 | 159 | 214 | 295 | 16 | 3 | 10 | 6 | 15 | 8 | 967 |

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1955. Number of Cases notified in each Ward.

| *Disease* | *Duffryn* | *Darran-las* | *Miskin* | *Penrhiw ceiber* | *Aber-cynon* | *Ynysy-bwl* | *Total* | *No. of Cases removed to Hospital.* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scarlet Fever ... ... | 8 | 3 | 13 | 20 | 7 | 1 | 52 | 2 |
| Pneumonia ... ... ... | 7 | 6 | 2 | 21 | — | — | 36 | 13 |
| Measles ... ... ... | 122 | 99 | 136 | 354 | 92 | 22 | 825 | — |
| Erysipelas ... ... ... | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | — | — | 8 | — |
| Meningococcal Infection ... | 3 | — | 2 | 2 | 1 | — | 8 | 8 |
| Food Poisoning ... | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | 3 | 1 |
| Whooping Cough ... ... | 2 | 4 | 5 | 20 | — | — | 31 | — |
| Para-typhoid ... ... | 2 | — | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | 2 |
| Enteric Fever ... ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| TOTAL ... ... | 146 | 115 | 160 | 423 | 100 | 23 | 967 | 26 |

## Cases Admitted, Treated and Discharged from various Sanatoria and Hospitals during 1955

| *Name of Institution* | WARDS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | MALES. | | | | | | | FEMALES. | | | | | | |
| | *Duffryn* | *Darranlas* | *Miskin* | *Penrhiw-ceiber* | *Aber-cynon* | *Ynysybwl* | *Total* | *Duffryn* | *Darranlas* | *Miskin* | *Penrhiw-ceiber* | *Aber-cynon* | *Ynysybwl* | *Total* |
| Mardy Isolation Hospital .. .. | 1 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 5 | — | 18 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | — | — | 5 |
| Glan Ely Hospital .. .. .. | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 3 |
| Pontsarn Hospital .. .. .. | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | — | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | — | 7 |
| Tonteg Isolation Hospital .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 4 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 |
| Sully Hospital .. .. .. .. | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | — | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| Adelina Patti Hospital .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth .. | — | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Energlyn Hospital .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL .. .. .. | 2 | 6 | 10 | 7 | 10 | 5 | 40 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 28 |

## Pulmonary and other Cases of Tuberculosis Notified by Medical Practitioners during 1955

| Ages | WARDS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Tuberculosis Mortality | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | MALES | | | | | | | FEMALES | | | | | | | | |
| | *Duffryn* | *Darranlas* | *Miskin* | *Penrhiw-ceiber* | *Aber-cynon* | *Ynysybwl* | *Total* | *Duffryn* | *Darranlas* | *Miskin* | *Penrhiw-ceiber* | *Aber-cynon* | *Ynysybwl* | *Total* | *Males* | *Females* |
| **PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 1 year ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 to 5 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 5 to 10 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 10 to 15 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15 to 20 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | — | 1 | 4 | — | — |
| 20 to 25 years ... | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 3 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — |
| 25 to 35 years ... | — | 3 | — | — | 2 | 1 | 6 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — | 2 |
| 35 to 45 years ... | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 4 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 45 to 55 years ... | 2 | — | — | — | 3 | — | 5 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 2 | — |
| 55 to 65 years ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | — |
| 65 years and over ... | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — |
| TOTAL ... | 6 | 4 | 3 | — | 7 | 3 | 23 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 7 | 3 |
| **OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under 1 year ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1 to 5 years ... | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5 to 10 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 10 to 15 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — |
| 15 to 20 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 20 to 25 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| 25 to 35 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 35 to 45 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 45 to 55 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 55 to 65 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 65 years and over ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL ... | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 3 | — | 1 |

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The same close liaison is maintained between the Chest Physician, the Local Heath Authority and this Authority as in previous years and has again, I consider, been responsible for improving the living conditions of some of the patients.

The Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death-rate per 1,000 population for 1955 was 0.32, and Other Forms of Tuberculosis 0.032.

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district during the past ten years :—

| | CASES NOTIFIED. | | DEATHS. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year. | Pulmonary. | Other Forms. | Pulmonary. | Other Forms. |
| 1946 ... | 60 | 8 | 22 | 5 |
| 1947 ... | 48 | 5 | 20 | 6 |
| 1948 ... | 49 | 10 | 20 | 2 |
| 1949 ... | 34 | 6 | 18 | — |
| 1950 ... | 44 | 7 | 18 | 6 |
| 1951 ... | 54 | 6 | 14 | 1 |
| 1952 ... | 59 | 6 | 16 | — |
| 1953 ... | 73 | 5 | 15 | 1 |
| 1954 ... | 52 | 4 | 9 | — |
| 1955 ... | 35 | 4 | 10 | 1 |

I append Tables showing the Age and Ward Distribution of all cases notified and the number treated at the various sanatoria :—

# Laboratory Work

## CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

As in previous years, arrangements have been made with the Glamorgan County Council for the chemical and bacteriological examination of specimens from this area at the Public Health Laboratory, The Parade, Cardiff.

Medical Practitioners in the district have been informed that outfits (excluding Sputum outfits) for the collection and transmission of specimens, can be obtained from the Public Health Department, Oxford Street, Mountain Ash.

The following table shows the nature and number of specimens sent for examination, and the result :—

| DISEASE SUSPECTED. | Number of Specimens. | Results. Positive. | Negative. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Para-Typhoid Fever :— | | | |
| Faeces ... ... | 44 | 12 | 32 |
| Blood ... ... | 5 | — | 5 |
| Sewer Swabs ... | 14 | — | 14 |
| Diphtheria :— | | | |
| Throat Swab ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Dysentry & Enteric :— | | | |
| Faeces ... | 28 | — | 28 |
| Urine ... ... | 19 | — | 19 |
| Food Poisoning :— | | | |
| Ox Liver ... | 4 | — | 4 |

## WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is under the control of the Council, and, during the year there was a plentiful supply. Apart from the outlying farms and premises, all the houses in the area have a piped supply of water from the Council's mains. In addition, the Trading Estates at Hirwaun and Ynysboeth are supplied.

The sources, gathering grounds and reservoirs, apart from the Penderyn Reservoir in Brecknockshire, are within the Mountain Ash Urban Area, and the capacity of the reservoirs is as follows :—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Penderyn Reservoir | ... | 132,000,000 | gallons |
| Clydach Reservoir ... | ... | 11,550,000 | ,, |
| Darranlas, Reservoir | ... | 3,500,000 | ,, |
| Perthcelyn Reservoir | ... | 30,000,000 | ,, |
| Buarth-y-Capel Reservoir... | | 500,000 | ,, |
| Gilfach Reservoir ... | ... | 60,000 | ,, |
| Cefnpennar Reservoir | ... | 23,000 | ,, |

In addition to the above reservoirs, there is an intake at Rhydygwreiddyn, Llanwonno, which is used occasionally.

The source of each supply is of an upland surface type, and tends to be soft in character. One supply of water, namely, the Darranlas Reservoir, which serves the main part of the town of Mountain Ash, is treated by sand filtration and chlorination, but the other sources are chlorinated only.

The water (raw and treated) from the sources in general use were sampled once monthly and, on occasions, more frequently. The sources not in general use were sampled when that water was used.

248 samples (124 chemical and 124 bacteriological) were taken and submitted to the Analyst at the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, for examination.

A table showing the result of bacteriological and chemical tests on the treated supplies is given below :—

| Source of Supply | | Results of Bacteriological Tests | | | | Results of Chemical Tests | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Number Samples | Satis-factory | Unsat-isf'tory | % Satis. | No. of Samples | Satis-factory | Unsat-isf'tory | % Satis'f'ry |
| **Penderyn Reservoir** | Raw | 15 | — | — | — | 15 | — | — | — |
| | Treated | 15 | 9 | 6 | 60% | 15 | 12 | 3 | 80% |
| **Perthcelyn Reservoir** | Raw | 8 | — | — | — | 8 | — | — | — |
| | Treated | 15 | 9 | 6 | 60% | 15 | 14 | 1 | 93.3% |
| **Darranlas Reservoir** | Raw | 16 | — | — | — | 16 | — | — | — |
| | Treated | 16 | 11 | 5 | 68.7% | 16 | 14 | 2 | 87.5% |
| **Clydach Reservoir** | Raw | 15 | — | — | — | 15 | — | — | — |
| | Treated | 16 | 12 | 4 | 75% | 16 | 12 | 4 | 75% |
| **Tank, Pentwyn Isaf Farm** | Raw | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| **Lan Farm** | Treated | 1 | 1 | — | 100% | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| **Buarth-y-Capel Reservoir** | Raw | 2 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — |
| **Rhydygwreiddyn Intake** | Raw | 1 | 1 | — | 100% | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| **Nantyrisfa Stream** | Raw | 2 | — | 2 | — | 2 | 2 | — | 100% |

No special action, apart from the usual precautions for the safety of the water, was taken.

### Plumbo Solvency.

The whole of the sources are soft and there is, therefore, a danger of action on lead. All supplies are treated with chalk to eliminate this danger.

### Gwernifor Smimming Baths.

24 samples (12 chemical and 12 bacteriological) were taken during the year and proved to be satisfactory on examination. Routine treatment of the water with Copper Sulphate was carried out to obviate the growth of algae.

### Paddling Pool, Abercynon.

24 samples (12 chemicals and 12 bacteriological) were taken during the year. 6 samples were bacteriologically unsatisfactory and 2 samples chemically unsatisfactory.

# Food Hygiene Campaign

## THE ICE CREAM (Heat Treatment, etc.) REGULATIONS, 1947-1952.

All premises where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold have been inspected frequently and comply with the above Regulations.

I am pleased to say that all vehicles used in the retail sale of Ice Cream have been maintained at the high standard approved by the Council.

25 samples of Ice Cream were taken and submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, with the following results :—

| Provisional Grade 1 (Satisfactory) | Provisional Grade 2 (Fair) | Provisional Grade 3 (Unsatisfactory) | Provisional Grade 4 (Very Unsatisfactory) | No Results |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17 | — | 3 | — | 5 |

## FOOD CAMPAIGNS.

(1) Numbr of Food Premises in the area :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Grocery and Provision Dealers .. .. | 58 |
| General Dealers: . .. .. .. | 117 |
| Greengrocers and Fruiterers .. .. | 35 |
| Fishmongers .. .. .. .. | 2 |
| Refreshment Dealers and Confectioners .. | 15 |
| Butchers .. .. .. .. | 29 |
| Fish Fryers .. .. .. .. | 21 |
| Confectionery only .. .. .. | 4 |
| Bakeries .. .. .. .. | 9 |
| Ice Cream (including Iced Lollies) .. | 1 |
| Licensed Premises .. .. .. | 34 |
| Mineral Water Manufacurers .. .. | 1 |
| Dairies .. .. .. .. | 3 |
| Wholesale Grocers .. .. | 2 |
| Canteens : Colliery .. .. .. | 5 |
| ,, School .. .. .. | 6 |
| ,, Railway .. .. .. | 1 |
| ,, Factory .. .. .. | 6 |

(2) Number of Premises registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1) | Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream .. | 6 |
| (2) | Sale of Ice Cream .. .. .. | 81 |
| (3) | Fried Fish and Chipped Potatoes .. | 21 |
| (4) | Butchers' Smalls .. .. .. | 15 |

16 dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

(3) 342 visits and inspections of registered food premises were made during the year.

The standard of handling, preparing, displaying and serving of food has improved considerably, but the human element remains The public could be of great assistance in furthering this improvement by being more critical of slip-shod, slovenly or unhygenic methods of handling and serving food.

It is my opinion, that, with the co-operation of the public, food handlers and managements, and the frequent inspections of food premises by your inspectors, further improvement could be achieved.

The inspection of all canteens and kitchens throughout the area was continued, and the very high standard of cleanliness and hygiene maintained.

(4) Lectures on food hygiene were given during the year to staffs of kitchens and canteens in the area.

My thanks and appreciation are due to the management and staff for their ready co-operation and assistance.

(5) Disposal of condemned food—burial in the Council's refuse tip. All tins are pierced before burial.

(6) No special examination of food other than that which occurred in the normal routine work and is included in the Sanitary Inspectors' Report.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-1950.

I give herewith a statement showing the number of samples taken by the County Sanitary Inspector in the Mountain Ash Urban Area during the year ended 31st December, 1955 :—

| SAMPLE. | *No. taken.* |
|---|---|
| Milk | 132 |
| Butter | 5 |
| Sago | 1 |
| White Pepper | 4 |
| Blackcurrant Cordial | 1 |
| Dessert Powder | 1 |
| Salad Cream | 5 |
| Condensed Milk | 6 |
| Meat Paste | 1 |
| Jam | 6 |
| Custard Powder | 6 |
| Table Jelly | 7 |
| Tea | 1 |
| Sponge Mixture | 13 |
| Cornflour | 3 |
| Self Raising Flour | 7 |
| Orange Drink | 1 |
| Mincemeat | 2 |
| Salmon Spread | 1 |
| Shredded Beef Suet | 1 |
| Vitamin Capsules | 1 |
| Glauber Salts | 1 |
| Epsom Salts | 1 |
| Aspirin Tablets | 1 |
| Olive Oil | 1 |
| Vitamin Tablets, etc. | 1 |
| Canned Creamed Rice | 1 |
| Mustard | 2 |
| Ground Mixed Spice | 1 |
| Canned Fish | 4 |
| Vinegar | 6 |
| Canned Peas | 2 |
| Cut Peel | 1 |
| Cake Mixture | 5 |
| Semolina | 3 |
| Prunes | 1 |
| Robolaine | 1 |
| Halibut Liver Oil Capsules | 1 |
| Sugar | 4 |
| Coffee & Chicory Essence | 2 |

| SAMPLE. | *No. taken* |
|---|---|
| Margarine | 2 |
| Tomato Sauce | 4 |
| Blancmange Powder | 1 |
| Ground Almonds | 1 |
| Beef Sausages | 1 |
| Gelatine | 1 |
| Canned Luncheon Meat | 1 |
| Pickled Onions | 1 |
| Sterilised Cream | 4 |
| Ice Cream | 6 |
| Soda Water | 1 |
| Golden Breadcrumbs | 1 |
| Macaroni | 2 |
| Raisins | 1 |
| Lemon Cheese | 1 |
| Canned Beans | 1 |
| Tomato Juice | 1 |
| Pudding Mixture | 4 |
| Cooking Fat | 1 |
| Pickle | 1 |
| Pork Sausages | 1 |
| Orangeade | 1 |
| Canned Tomatoes | 1 |
| Soda Water | 3 |
| Pastry Mixture | 1 |
| Curry Powder | 1 |
| Baking Powder | 1 |
| Sweets | 2 |
| Lentils | 1 |
| Canned Stew | 1 |
| Yeast Tablets | 1 |
| Extract of Malt with Cod Liver Oil | 1 |
| Mixed Peel | 1 |
| Lemon Curd | 1 |
| Custard Powder | 1 |
| Sultanas | 1 |
| Yorkshire Pudding and Pancake Mixture | 1 |
| Trifle Pack | 1 |
| Blancmange Powder | 2 |

Two samples of Soda Water were found, under analysis, to be devoid of Sodium Bicarbonate. Proceedings were taken against the manufacturers resulting in fines amountind to £2 plus £1 10*s*. 0*d*. Analyst's Fees.

I am indebted to Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical Officer of Health, for supplying me with the above information.

## HOUSING.

### Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 & 1932.

No action has been taken by the Council under the above Regulations.

# General Health and Welfare Services of the District

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1.—Services provided by the Glamorgan County Council :—

(*a*) Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, School Medical and Health Visiting.

These services are adminstered by the
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER.
Headquarters : Divisional Health Offices,
New Clinic Buildings, Rock Grounds,
Aberdare.
Tel. No. : Aberdare 441.

(*b*) MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE :—

The duty authorised officer for this area is,—

Mr. STANLEY WILLIAMS,
Amroth, Clive Tce., Ynysybwl, Glam
Tel. No. : Ynysybwl 26.

(*c*) AMBULANCE SERVICE :—

The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at HAWTHORNE, PONTYPRIDD.

Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2522.

(*d*) WELFARE SERVICE :—

Officers of the Welfare Department are available to offer advice and assistance to those in need of hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped. The local office for this area is at

AREA OFFICE, Llewellyn Street,
Trecynon, ABERDARE.
Tel. No. : Aberdare 318.

(*e*) Children's Department :—

The office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at

33 to 36 Adam Street, Cardiff.
Tel. No. : Cardiff 31696 to 31698.

There is, however, working in this district a Childrens' Visitor :—

Mrs. Davies, Nafton House, Capel Street,
Bargoed, Glam.

(*f*) Registration of Births, Deaths & Marriages :

This area comes under the Pontypridd District and the Superintendent's Office is at

Courthouse Street,
Pontypridd, Glam.
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 3122.

The local offices are situated at
53 Commercial Street, Mountain Ash.

Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2192.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday,—
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. ; 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Glancynon Post Office, Abercynon.
Tuesday—9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

Workmen's Institute, Ynysybwl.
Tuesday—11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

(*g*) Probation Officer :—

The address of the Principal Probation Officer is at

St. Catherine's Chamber, Mill Street,
Pontypridd.
Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2157.

For this area the address is,—

Probationer Officer Office, Cardiff Street,
Aberdare. Tel. No. : Aberdare 332.

## 2.—Hospital Services provided by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board.

Hospital facilities of this area are administered by the Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee. The office of this Committee is at

St. Tydfil's Hospital,
Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.
Tel. No. : Merthyr 900.

The following is a list of the hospitals and clinics used by the residents of the area :—

Mountain Ash and Penrhiwceiber General Hospital, Mountain Ash. Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2213.

Lady Aberdare Maternity Hospital, Granville Tce., Mountain Ash. Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2194.

Fedw Hir Convalescent Hospital, Llwydcoed, Aberdare. Tel. No. : Aberdare 612.

Mardy Isolation Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil (*For Infectious Diseases*).
Tel. No. : Merthyr 230.

Chest Clinic Melbourne House,, Penrhiwceiber Rd. Penrhiwceiber.
(This Clinic is open on Tuesday & Friday mornings 10 a.m. to 12 noon). Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2119.

## 3.—Services provided by Government Departments.

(*a*) Ministry of National Insurance :—

Central Office (Wales) is at Cathays Park, Cardiff. Tel. No. : Cardiff 26411.

Local Office is at Duffryn Road, Mountain Ash. Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2215.

(*b*) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel :—

This office is situated at the East Entrance, Prudential Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff. Tel. No. : Cardiff 26161

(*c*) National Assistance Board :—

The Area Office for this District is at Glanynys, Cwmbach Road, Aberdare. Telephone No. : Aberdare 343.

4.—General Practitioner Services :—

This service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive Council of 47 Park Place, Cardiff. Tel. No. : Cardiff 26216 (National Health Council).

5.—National Assistance Act, 1948—Burial of the dead

Under the provisions of the Act, during the year the cost of burying four persons was accepted by this authority.

J. LL. WILLIAMS,
*Medical Officer of Health.*

# Summary of Work done by the Sanitary Inspectors

| | |
|---|---|
| Houses and premises inspected and re-visited | 3,614 |
| Number of Notices served under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936 :— | |
| Informal | 759 |
| Statutory | 515 |
| **General Repairs—** | |
| Chimneys and fireplaces | 183 |
| Roofs | 375 |
| Eavesgutters and downpipes | 258 |
| External walls | 64 |
| Windows and doors | 168 |
| Internal walls, partitions and ceilings | 166 |
| Floors | 76 |
| Internal staircase | 20 |
| Cupboards and skirtings | 52 |
| Sculleries and pantries | 90 |
| Yard pavements and steps | 70 |
| Dry areas provided | 2 |
| Washhouses and coal houses | 20 |
| Boundary and forecourt walls | 62 |
| Dirty premises | 5 |
| Fowl Cots removed | 2 |
| Accumulations removed | 6 |
| Repairs to water service | 40 |
| **Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936—** | |
| Number of Notices served | 72 |
| **Drainage—** | |
| Cleansed, repaired and relaid | 115 |
| Drains tested | 203 |
| Wash-up sinks provided and repaired | 4 |
| **Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936—** | |
| Number of Notices served | 263 |
| **Sanitary Conveniences—** | |
| General repairs | 199 |
| Water flushing apparatus repaired and renewed | 68 |
| New accommodations provided | 2 |
| Cesspools cleansed | 1 |

**Legal Proceedings—**

During the year, 5 summonses under Section 93, 3 under Section 45 and 2 under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were taken for non-abatement of nuisances.

In one case under Section 93, a Court Order to complete the work in 1 month and in another, an Order to complete the work in 2 months was issued. In the third case, a fine of £2 and a daily penalty of 5/- suspended for 2 months was imposed for failure to comply with a court Order. The two remaining summonses were withdrawn on adjournment and undertakings to carry out the repairs.

Under Section 45—One case resulted in a fine of £2 and a daily penalty of 5/- suspended for 2 months. The enforcement of the Order for daily penalty anounted to £23 15s 0d. The remaining summons was withdrawn after adjournment on undertaking to carry out the repairs.

Under Section 39—A fine of £2 and a daily penalty of 5/- suspended for 2 months. The enforcement of the Order for daily penalty amounted to £23 15s 0d.

Costs on each summons were recovered by the Council.

**Factory Act, 1947—**

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of bakehouses on register .. .. .. .. | 9 |
| Number of factories on register .. .. .. .. | 102 |
| Number of visits .. .. .. .. .. .. | 74 |
| Number of Notices .. .. .. .. .. .. | 4 |
| Number of outworkers .. .. .. .. .. | 18 |

**Infectious Diseases—**

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of cases visited .. .. .. .. .. | 75 |

**Disinfection—**

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of houses fumigated after infectious disease .. | 84 |
| Number of dirty or verminous houses sprayed or fumigated | 78 |

**Licensed Premises—**

During the year, I accompanied the Licensing Magistrates and Police Superintendent on their inspection of Licensed Premises throughout the area.

In my opinion, this co-operation is desirable as, already, it has produced considerable improvements in the standard of hygiene at the premises visited.

It is anticipated that other hotels in the area will be jointly inspected in the near future.

## FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK & DAIRIES) ACT, 1944
## The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Powers of Supervision of the retail distribution and sampling of milk for bacteriological examination are vested in the Local Authority :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of Distributors on Register ... | 17 |
| Number of Dairies in area ... ... | 16 |
| Number of visits ... ... ... ... | 68 |

68 samples of milk were taken during the year and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, for bacteriological examination and chemical tests.

4 samples were found to be unsatisfactory. In these instances, copies of the Analyst's reports were sent to the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agricultural and Fisheries.

18 samples were submitted for examination for tubercle bacilli, the bacilli being present in one sample. Action was taken through the County Veterinary Officer.

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) ACT, 1949

### Milk Special Designation (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

One dealers' Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested" was issued to a distributor of milk in this area.

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (Pastuerised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

14 dealers' Licences authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised" and 14 Licences for the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)" were issued to distributors of milk in this area.

5 dealers' Licences were issued for the use of the Special Designation "Sterilised".

One Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designations "Pastuerised," "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)", and "Sterilised" was issued to a distributor of milk residing outside the Urban Area.

## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

### Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1954

10 licences to slaughter or stun animals were issued during the year.

Notice of intended slaughtering of 20 cottagers' pigs were received by the Public Health Department, and the carcases were inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors.

### Carcases Inspected and Condemned, in whole or in part.

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Horses |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number killed (if known .. .. | — | — | — | — | Not known | |
| Number inspected .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | 20 | — |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :— Whole carcases condemned .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tuberculosis only :— Whole carcases condemned .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Cysticercosis :— Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Generalised and totally condemned .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |

A total of 1 ton, 11 cwts., 71lbs. of foodstuffs was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

| | Weight in lbs. |
|---|---|
| Home Killed Beef | 63 |
| Bacon | 198 |
| Sausages | 254½ |
| Cheese | 48 |
| Butter | 29 |
| Margarine | 1 |
| Cooked Ham | 19½ |
| Fish | 56 |
| Fish Cakes | 27 |
| Biscuits | 48 |
| Chicken | 4 |
| Cereal | 77 |
| Dried Fruit | 59 |
| Butter Beans | 30 |
| Chocolates | 15½ |
| Cake Mixture | 49 |
| Tinned Meat | 327 |
| Tinned Ham | 367½ |
| Tinned Goods | 1870 |

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Premises where pet animals are sold must be licensed annually by the local authority.

Two such licences were issued during the year, and both premises were frequently inspected in accordance with the provisions of the above mentioned Act.

## RAG FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

One factory in the area has been registered as an upholstery premises.

Frequent visits have been made to see that the provisions of the above Act have been complied with.

## RODENT CONTROL.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

During the year work on the destruction of rats was continued.

Private dwellings were treated free of costs to the occupiers, and 50 per cent. of the costs incurred were recovered from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. No grant is received in respect of business premises, and all expenditure has to be recovered from the occupiers of these premises.

Two full-time Rodent Operatives are employed by the Council, and details of the work carried out by them, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors, are as follows :—

Number of Preliminary Notices served :—

| | |
|---|---|
| (1) for treatment ... ... ... ... | — |
| (2) for structural work ... ... ... | 2 |

Number of Premises visited ... ... 2,836

| | Rats. | Mice. |
|---|---|---|
| Number of dwelling houses treated .. | 304 | 246 |
| Number of business premises treated .. | 6 | 10 |
| Number of school kitchens treated .. | 1 | 3 |
| Number of refuse tips treated .. .. | 7 | |
| Number of embankments treated .. .. | 20 | |
| Number of watercourses treated .. .. | 8 | |
| Number of sewer beds treated .. .. | 4 | |
| Number of back lanes treated .. .. | 2 | |
| Number of culverts treated.. .. .. | 8 | |
| Number of sections of river embankments treated .. .. .. .. | 36 | |
| Number of schools treated .. .. .. | 1 | 1 |
| Number of canal banks treated .. .. | 2 | |
| Number of hospitals treated .. .. | | 2 |
| Number of factories treated .. .. | 1 | |

## Block Treatment.

7 block treatments were carried out during the year, as follows :—

(*a*) Both sewage disposal works, Ynysybwl, and nearby embankments of River Clydach, giving an estimated kill of 192 rats.

(*b*) 18, 19, 20 & 21 Martin Terrace, Abercynon, adjacent canal banks and nearby sewer manholes. The estimated kill was 65 rats.

(*c*) Council Housing Estate, Nantyfedw, and nearby culvert, watercourse, and embankments with an estimated kill of 165 rats.

(*d*) Ynysboeth Trading Estate, Abercynon, culvert, watercourse and embankments. The estimated kill was 792 rats.

(*e*) 11, 13, 31 & 35 High Street, and 10, 17 & 23 Augustus Street, Ynysybwl, adjoining watercourse, river embankments and nearby sewer manholes, resulting in an estimated kill of 175 rats.

(*f*) 16, 30, 32, 36, 38, 49 & 50 Cardiff Road, Abercynon. 14 nearby sewer manholes and adjoining embankments, The estimated kill was 112 rats.

(*g*) Pont Ddu refuse tip nearby embankments and river embankments, giving an estimated kill of 567 rats.

The estimated kill of rats throughout the area (excluding the sewers) for the year, was as follows :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Mountain Ash ... ... | 2218 |
| Penrhiwceiber ... ... | 1035 |
| Abercynon ... ... ... | 1435 |
| Ynysybwl ... ... ... | 1415 |
| | 6103 |

All estimated kills are worked out in accordance with the formula of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

## Sewer Treatment.

Two maintenance treatments of the sewers throughout the area, comprising 677 manholes, were carried out, one from 6th June, 1955, to 2nd July, 1955, and the other from 21st November to 17th December, 1955.

291 manholes showed a pre-bait and 11 manholes showed a complete pre-bait take on one or both of the days during the first treatment, whereas the figures for the second treatment were 349 and 13 respectively. As there is no check on the poison takes in sewers, it is impossible to work out an estimated kill.

The treatment were carried out by the Rodent Operatives, assisted by two men from the Surveyor's Staff.

All sewer beds and refuse tips were treated at the same time, and all treatments were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The bait used in the first treatment was Sausage Rusk, and the poison, Zinc Phosphide and, for the second treatment, the bait was Bread Mash and the poison, Arsenious Oxide.

The nature and development of the Mountain Ash Urban Area and the close proximity of the dwelling houses, etc., to the river makes rodent infestation and reinfestation inevitable, and will necessitate constant survey, treatment and supervision.

W. J. WATTERS,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector.*

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